

Abstract of the Disclosure

An agricultural bagger apparatus and method for compacting feed into a horizontally deployed bag including a compression mechanism and an input hopper that receives agricultural feed. The hopper has a sloping wall and a lower end exit chute located to transfer the feed into the primary compression mechanism (e.g., a rotating toothed cylinder). The tapered hopper causes the feed to bridge, stopping the feed from falling through the chute. A new distribution mechanism in the hopper sweeps the feed adjacent to the sloping wall to prevent feed bridging. By preventing the feed from clogging, there is less reason to risk one's safety by foolishly inserting their limb into the hopper. Some embodiments also compact feed in the upper portion of the tunnel, for example, by reciprocating a hinged piston above the primary compression mechanism. This increases the compaction on the top portion of the tunnel without unduly juicing the feed.

"Express mail" mailing label no. EL 873 861 039 US

Date of deposit: 11 October 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the united states postal service as "express mail post office to addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Charles A. Lemaire
(Name)

Charles A. Lemaire
(Signature)

11 October 2001
(date)